Mower Safety

Make Sure the Grass Is the Only Thing That Gets Cut This Summer!

Mower Safety

- As we enter the mowing season, it's time to brush up on your mowing safety procedures to help keep yourself free of injury
- Although many of you have years of mowing experience, sometimes safety precautions are overlooked and the results can be dangerous

Mower Safety

- Staying aware of lawn conditions, knowing your machine and constantly being alert can help you avoid accidents and injury
- Always refer to the operator's manual for routine maintenance schedules and sa

Before Mowing

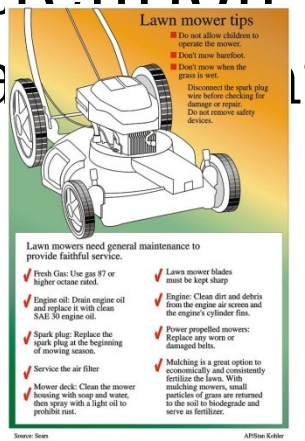
- Here are some general mower-safety guidelines to help get you started
- Safety precautions are not limited to reading your operator's manual and performing maintenance on your mower

Before Mowing

- In fact, safety begins with the clothes you wear
- Choose close-fitting clothes and long pants, hearing protection, eye protection, work boots with traction and heavy gloves (when handling blades)
- Do not wear loose-fitting clothes or jewelry, which can get caught or l
up on a machine and ury

Before Mowing

- Read warning labels and check safety features
- There are dangers associated with operating power equipment, so pay attention to all warning labels and sa tures on your mow


Lawn mower tips
Do not allow children to operate the mower.
Don't mow barefoot.
Don't mow when the grass is wet.
Disconnect the spark plug wire before checking for damage or repair.
Do not remove safety devices.
Lawn mowers need general maintenance to provide faithful service.
Fresh Gas: Use gas 87 or higher octane rated.
Engine oil: Drain engine oil and replace it with clean SAE 30 engine oil.
Spark plug: Replace the spark plug at the beginning of mowing season.
Service the air filter
Mower deck: Clean the mower housing with soap and water, then spray with a light oil to prohibit rust.
Lawn mower blades must be kept sharp
Engine: Clean dirt and debris from the engine air screen and the engine's cylinder fins.
Power propelled mowers: Replace any worn or damaged belts.
Mulching is a great option to economically and consistently fertilize the lawn. With mulching mowers, small particles of grass are returned to the soil to biodegrade and serve as fertilizer.
Source: Sears
APStan Kohler

Before Mowing

- Also, check the safety guards and devices to ensure that they are in proper working condition
- Never operate your mower if your safety guards and devices are not in place
- Always check your mower on a hard, flat surface away from the mowing area

Before Mowing

- Adjust the cutting height
- Never adjust the mower height when the engine is running
- All adjustments must be made while the engine is turned off

Before Mowing

- Never start the mower if attachments are not securely fastened
- Never operate a mower where carbon monoxide can collect, such as in a closed garage, storage shed or basement

Before Mowing

- Check your mower's fuel level and fill if necessary so that you start your day with a full tank of fuel
- If you refuel during the day, move your mower to a flat, concrete surface, turn the engine off and allow the engine to cool
- Do not fuel a hot mower or re e the fuel tank cap on a hot mower

Before Mowing

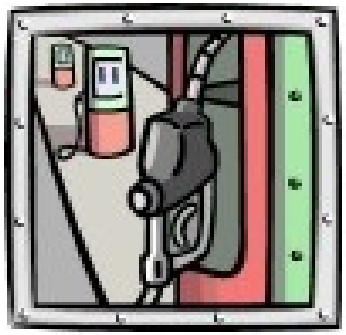
- Never smoke around gasoline or while filling the mower
- Fill the lawnmower with gas in a ventilated area
- Avoid filling the gas tank right to the top; leave an air space for expansion
- If you spill gasoline, wipe it up or wait for it to evaporate before starting the lawnmower
- Store the gas in an approved contain

Before Mowing

- Before you begin mowing, walk the area and clear all hazards, such as rocks, and hidden debris like broken glass, bottles and miscellaneous materials
- Injuries may occur from debris that is projected into the air by mower impact
- Projected debris can cause injuries to operators, pedestrians and property

Before Mowing

- Never fill your gas container in the back of your truck
- Always place the container on the ground before filling
- Static electricity and no ground in the back of the trucks have been known to ca



While Mowing

- Never position the side-discharge chute toward people or property
- Never leave a running mower unattended
- When you leave the operator’s position the mower should be turned off
- New models have an operator presence switch that automatically kills the engine when the operator releases the handle

While Mowing

- To avoid injury to yourself or others, pay attention to what goes on around you
- If a person or animal approaches you while working, stop your mower and turn off the engine
- You may resume mowing area is clear of all people

While Mowing

- If you see any debris that you missed in your initial inspection, stop mowing, turn off the engine and pick up the debris
- Do not attempt to clear debris while the mower's engine is still rur

While Mowing

- Do not clear the deflection chute if it becomes clogged with grass clippings while the engine is running
- Never place your hands or feet near the cutting blades

While Mowing

- Use extreme care when mowing on slopes
- Remember: if it looks dangerous, it almost certainly is dangerous, so use caution

After Mowing

- Refer to your operator's manual for proper shutdown procedures
- Make sure that the mower is completely stopped and the engine is off before you begin your clean-up and maintenance
- Your operator's manual will detail specific clean-up and maintenance tasks

After Mowing

- Your mower should be cleaned after each job by removing clippings and other landscaping debris from the mower, and deflection chute
- Lingering debris can cause unwanted buildup and potential malfunctions or breakdowns of parts
- Also, accumulation of grass
excessive oil can be a fire h

After Mowing

- Preventive maintenance is key to your mower's longevity
- If your mower requires any repairs, tend to them immediately
- If repairs are overlooked and the mower is used, damage to additional mower parts or operator injury may result

Don’t Forget!

Safety practices also apply for weed eaters and edger's

Mower Safety

- Before you start up your mower this year, be certain you've taken all the necessary precautions
- By following these guidelines, you can ensure a safe mowing s ly for yourself, but for thos as well

ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?